In the period between August, 1991 and October, 1992, 19 Austrian technical and financial collaborations have been finalised. The details thereof are as follows:—

(i) Technical	15
(ii) Financial	4
TOTAL:	19

Increase in Export

2658. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the value of the country's exports in dollars terms during the last year;

(b) the value of the country's exports in dollar terms during the current year till date; and

(c) the fresh steps Government propose to take to increase exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) the value of India's exports in dollar terms during the financial year 1991-92 amounted to US $ 17865 million.

(b) The value of India's exports, in dollar terms, during the first six months of the current financial year *i.e.* April-September, 1992, the latest period for which the trade data is available amounted to US $ 8549 million.

(c) Several changes in trade policy were introduced since July, 1991 aimed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating a substantial volume of import licensing and rationalising the import tariff structure. Rupee has been made partially convertible to encourage generation of foreign exchange. These have been further consolidated in the new Export-Import Policy which, *inter-alia,* aims to promote productivity, modernisation and competitiveness of Indian industry and thereby to enhance its export capabilities. The policy also seeks to promote efficient and internationally competitive import substitution regulated framework for foreign trade. A short-term Action Plan for ensuring the revival of the export momentum has been formulated. Besides, 34 commodities have been identified as 'expteme focus' sectors aimed at value increase of 30% every year, in exports.

Export Earnings from Leather Goods

2659. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the export earnings from export of all types of leather goods during the last 3 years, year-wise;

(b) the measures taken to improve production technology import, of raw materials and ensure quality control to encourage boosting up of exports of leather goods;

(c) whether Government are aware of large scale smuggling of leather hides and skins across the neighbouring countries;

(d) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken to check these activities of tanneries in border areas; and

(c) the names of the tanneries which are involved in illegal activities and the action taken against them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) India's exports of Leather and Leather Products during the last three years were as under:

(Value in Rs. crores)

Item	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
Finished leather	714.59	802.29	726.21
Leather footwear	171.43	280.47	430.81
Footwear components	518.25	573.00	663.35
Leather garments	332.88	554.81	736.87
Leather goods	292.87	343.26	518.99
TOTAL.	2030.02	2553.83	3076.23

SOURCE: Council for leather Exports